

Mr. Jas. Haverkum to Col. McMahon

18648-9

6. Octob. 1811

My Dear Colonel

I last evening received another mark
of your kind attention to me, in which like all generous spirits
you undervalue the services rendered - My agitation of
mind lately has so affected my Nerves, that I have been much
indisposed for this week past - and two mornings have had
a spitting of blood in a trifling degree, but after having
broken a blood Vessel twice you may naturally suppose
that such symptoms are not very pleasant - I have written a
Petition to His Royal Highness the Commander in Chief, and
a Letter to Col. Torrens requesting him to present it for me, both
which I enclose with this, and have to request of you after you
have perused them - To either send them or give them to Col.
Torrens - you will see I have taken the liberty of mentioning
your Name in both - and am sure from the kind expressions
in your last letter, you will do every thing for me you can,
As I sent you a State of my Case, should you not have
destroyed it - I shall thank you to make use of it as information
to Col. Torrens, should he have the goodness to undertake to give
in my Petition, and as answers to any questions His R. Highness
the Commander in Chief may be pleased to ask you - I am
really truly ashamed to give you all this trouble but
depending greatly on your influence I cannot forbear thus
troubling you - But as I hope this is the last letter I shall
have occasion to trouble you with on the Subject, I must
beg you to excuse its being longer than I could wish -
I suppose I am appointed to a Lieut. in a
Veteran Battalion and am obliged to join them, the first
thing will be to fit myself out with Regimentals &c &c necessary

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for an Officer to appear with respectability, this as I have only a Regimental packet that I have reserved in case of invasion, or any general call on the Army to assemble, in which case I should of course place myself under the command of the first Officer I could meet with, let my state of health be what it might, I say in such a case I should have those necessaries to get which I should suppose on the most moderate computation, would take up near half a year's pay and not a sixpence have I to do it with, or likely to get credit unless I gave an order on the Agents to pay it as my pay became due - supposing such Agent would accept the order, what then am I to do for subsistence, and how am I to leave the place where I am without paying what I owe - My situation in the latter respect is similar to a small Garrison surrounded by a powerful Enemy, which whilst they can stay in and contrive to subsist however miserably are in some degree safe; but the moment they attempt to march out they are taken Prisoners - Excuse my troubling you with Similies but this is a strong one, for whilst I can stay where I am and keep up appearances, I may by paying a little now and then, perhaps at length conquer my difficulties in this respect, but was I to quit this without paying, or giving good security for the money I should without doubt be accepted - Now on the contrary if I get leave to return on the full pay as a Lieut. I fear I have no chance of a Company, I can then devote some part of my pay to relieve me from debt (I don't care how miserably I subsist) or if I could get some appointment in addition to the Lieut. if the duty of which I could attend to, I should then have it more in my power to relieve myself from my Embarrassments, there is such situations as Store keepers to the Depots of Small Arms, Boat or some such appointment I could certainly attend to, or perhaps you will be good enough to consider in your mind if there is not some situation that I could fill

which if not immediately vacant, might be obtained when a vacancy happens, or may I ask you to speak in my favor to Gen. Duple and try to get him to give me some appointment in Chelsea Hospital, or is there no appointment you could procure me under his R. H. the Prince Regent or rather under some of his servants - either at Brighton or in the Duchy of Cornwall or in Short any where, if it would only afford me 50 £ a year which I might receive with my full pay it would be rendering me a most essential service

I have my eyes to be esteemed friend explained before my wishes and wants - by doing which I have taken up a great deal more of your time than I would willingly have done - I shall therefore now conclude with the most sincere and fervent prayers for your health and happiness - And in whatever situation I may be in I shall always be with heartfelt gratitude esteem & respect

My Dear Colonel

Yr. Very faithful
& obliged Servant

Jas. Haverkum

P.S. Had I thought when I first wrote to you, that it would have occasioned you such a troublesome Correspondence, I really believe I should not have ventured to have written at all

Col. M. McMahon
R. H. D.

18649

6 Oct. 1811

Lieut Hawkerham

[Faint, illegible cursive handwriting covering the majority of the page]

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